Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CA-01 HA-05 L-03 H-01

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R 270843Z JUN 78 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8831

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CASC, ET

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE FOR AMCIT TO LEAVE ETHIOPIA

REF: USUN 2584

- 1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED SCHLOSSER LETTER AND IS RESPONDING DIRECTLY, COPY TO DEPT, AS REQUESTED.
- 2. DERRAR HAILE WAS BORN TO ETHIOPIAN PARENTS IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS IN 1973 AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER WAS SENT TO ETHIOPIA TO LIVE WITH MATERNAL GRANDMOTHER. CHILD IS, OF COURSE, US CITIZEN. MOTHER NOW WISHES HIM TO JOIN HER AND STEP-FATHER, KEN SCHLOSSER. IN US.
- 3. ANYONE, WHETHER ETHIOPIAN OR ALIEN, WISHING TO DEPART ETHIOPIA MUST SECURE EXIT VISA FROM ETHIOPIAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES. BECAUSE CHILD'S FATHER IS PROMINENT MEMBER OF ERITREAN POPULAR LIBERATION FRONT (EPLF), FAMILY IS CONCERNED WHETHER ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT WILL ISSUE REQUIRED VISA.
- 4. EMBASSY HAS ATTEMPTED TO INDICATE ITS CONCERN THAT DERRAR BE PERMITTED TO DEPART AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF ASSISTANCE. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE PREMATURE INTERVENTION ON OUR PART COULD INCREASE ANY OFFICIAL DISINCLINATION TO ISSUE VISA. EMBASSY HAS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT INITIAL APPLICATION BE MADE BY FAMILY ALONE. WE ARE IN INDIRECT CONTACT WITH FAMILY HERE (THROUGH FRIEND OF SCHLOSSERS) AND UNDERSTAND APPLICATION PROCEDURE WAS BEGUN SATURDAY 6/24. WE HOPE TO HAVE AN INITIAL INDICATION HOW THINGS WILL GO EARLY

NEXT WEEK AND CAN RELAY INFORMATION THROUGH USUN IF DESIRED. FAMILY IS WARY OF DIRECT CONTACT AND EMBASSY IS THEREFORE UNWILLING TO INITIATE IT.

5. OTHER CASES SIMILAR TO DERRAR'S INDICATE PROCEDURE MAY BE LONG AND FRUSTRATING. DESPITE DELAYS, ALL OTHER APPLICANTS OF WHOM WE KNOW HAVE ULTIMATELY BEEN SUCCESSFUL. MATHERON

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Subject: ASSISTANCE FOR AMCIT TO LEAVE ETHIOPIA

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To: USUN NEW YORK

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